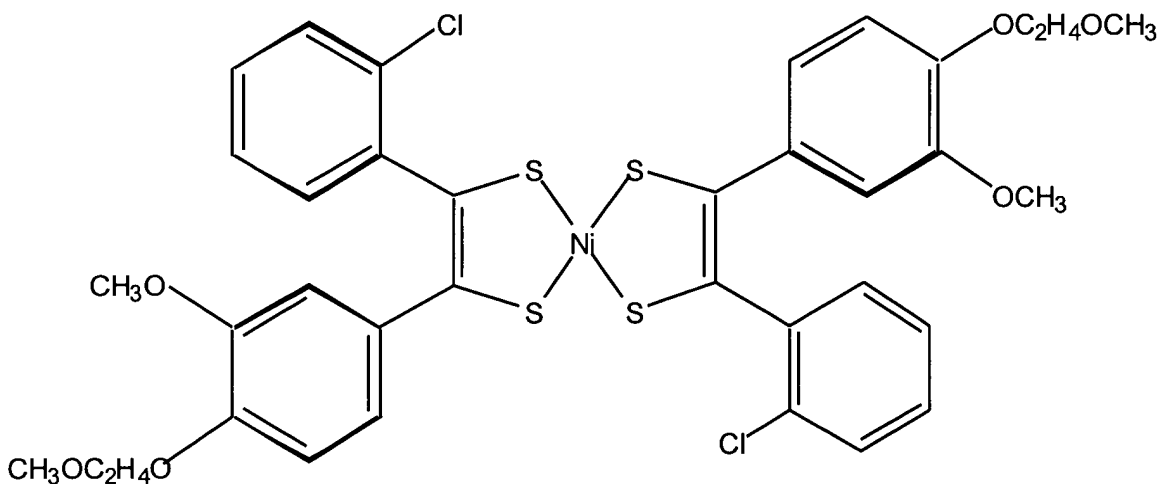


IN THE CLAIMS:

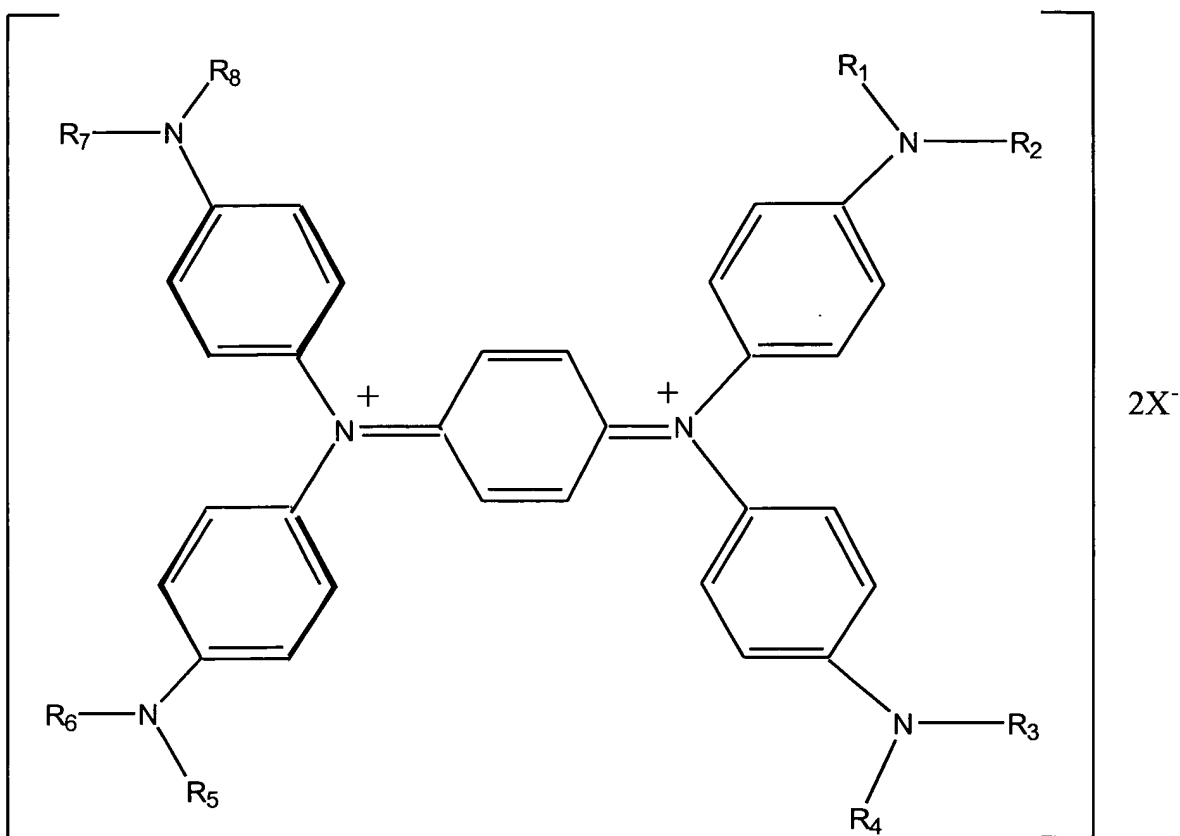
1. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material comprising:

a transparent substrate, and

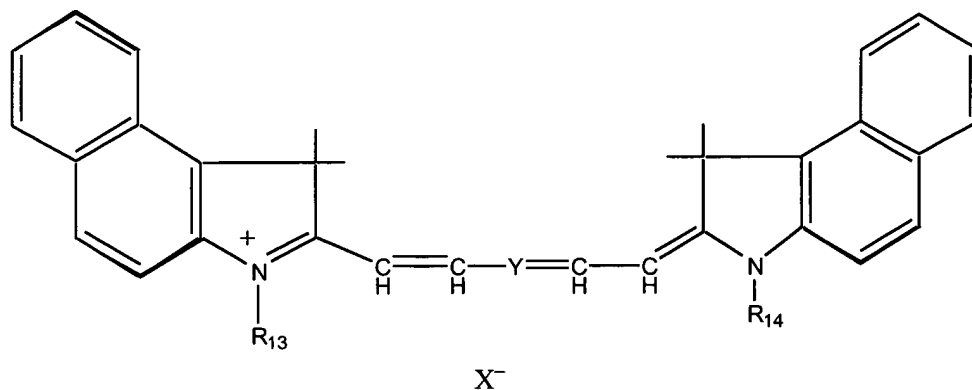
at least a transparent resin layer formed thereon, the transparent resin layer containing a near infrared absorption dye which is a dithiol-nickel complex represented by the following formula (1):



and at least one kind of diimonium compound represented by the following formula (2):



where R_1 to R_8 are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-12} alkyl group or a C_{6-12} aryl group; and X is an anion selected from SbF_6^{-} , ClO_4^{-} , NO_3^{-} and a halogen ion;
[[and]] a dye selectively absorbing a light of 550 to 620 nm wavelength region; and at least one polymethine dye represented by the following formula (4):

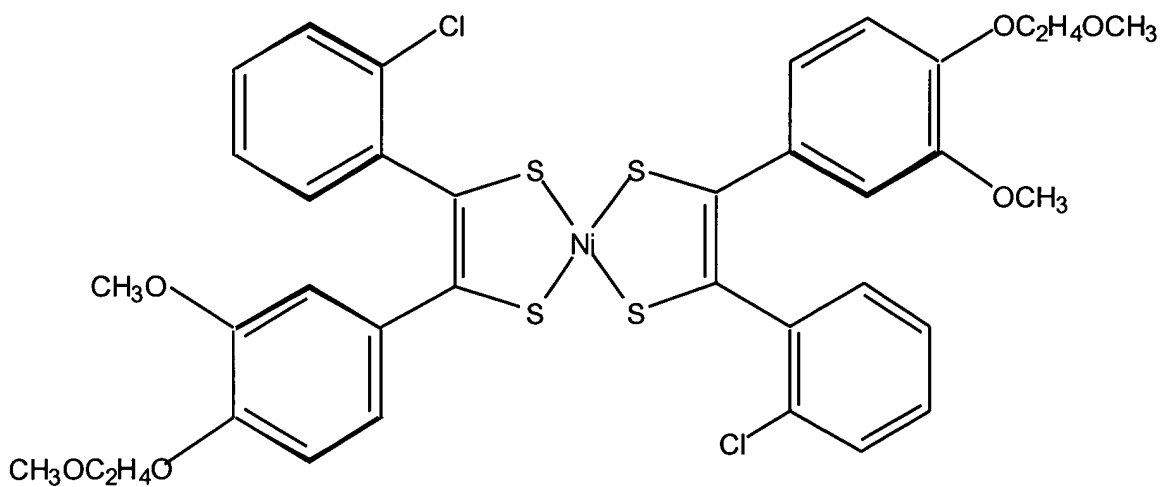


where R_{13} and R_{14} are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-12} alkyl group, a C_{6-12} aryl group, an alkenyl group, an aralkyl group or an alkynyl group; Y is a sulfur atom, a methine group or a chlorocyclohexene group; and X is an anion selected from SbF_6^{-} , ClO_4^{-} , NO_3^{-} and a halogen ion.

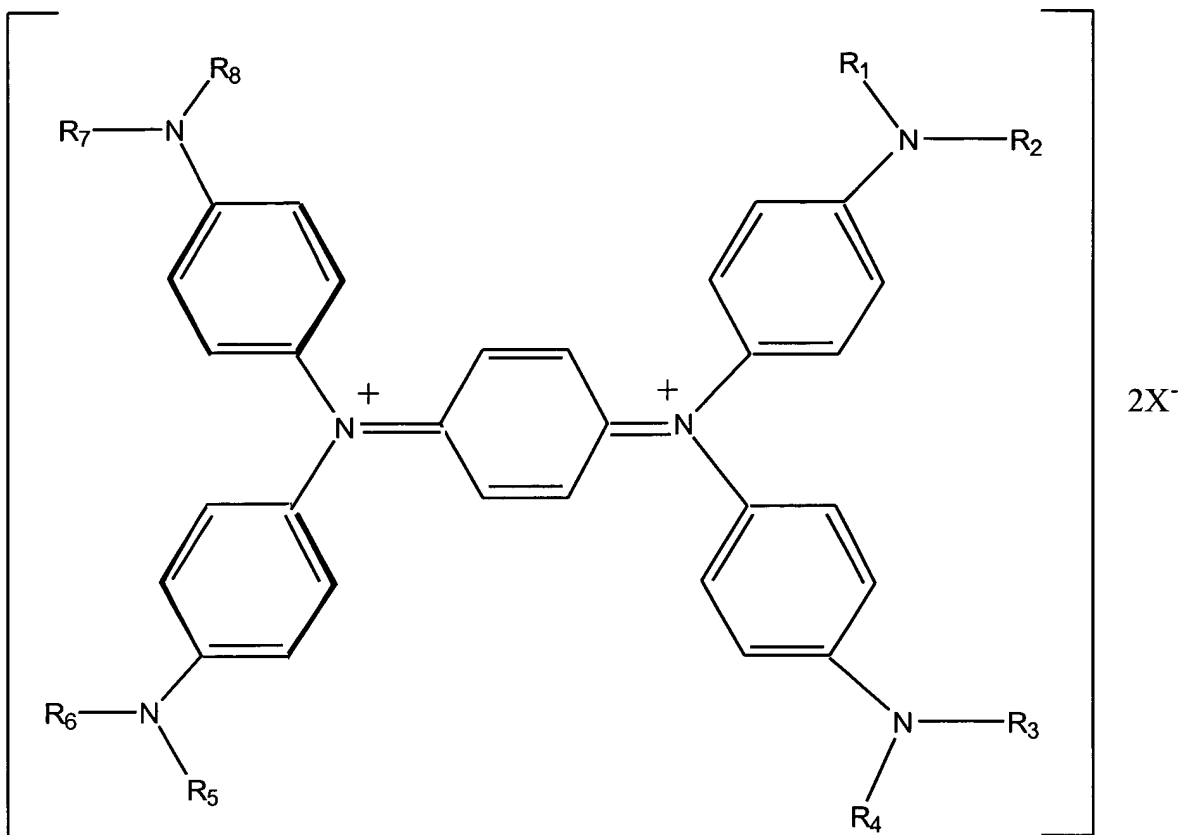
2. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material comprising:

a transparent substrate, and

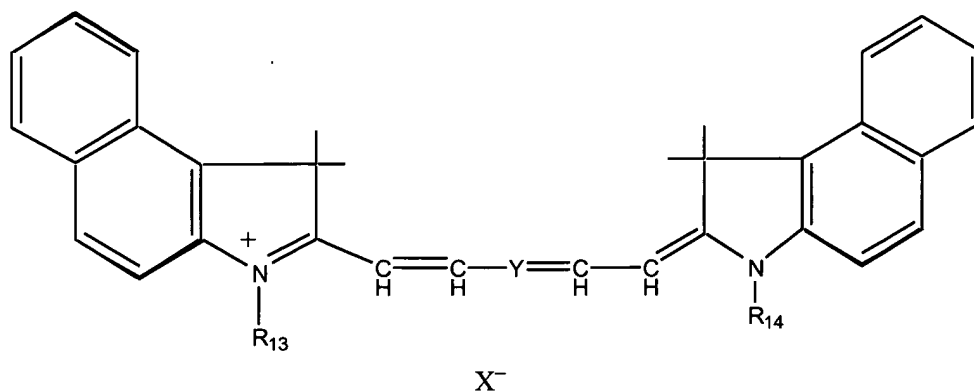
at least a transparent resin layer containing a near infrared absorption dye which is a dithiol-nickel complex represented by the following formula (1):



and at least one kind of diimonium compound represented by the following formula (2):



where R₁ to R₈ are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₁₂ alkyl group or a C₆₋₁₂ aryl group; and X is an anion selected from SbF₆⁻, ClO₄⁻, NO₃⁻ and a halogen ion, and at least one polymethine dye represented by the following formula (4):

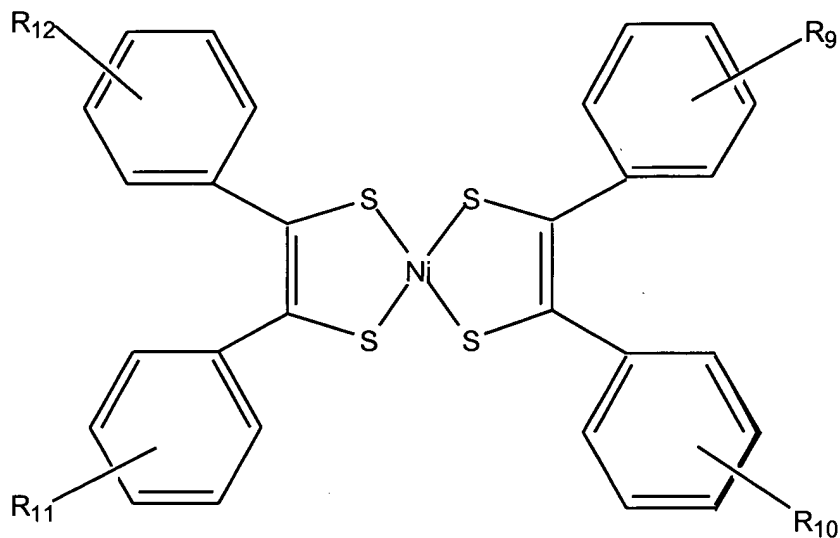


where R_{13} and R_{14} are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-12} alkyl group, a C_{6-12} aryl group, an alkenyl group, an aralkyl group or an alkynyl group; Y is a sulfur atom, a methine group or a chlorocyclohexene group; and X is an anion selected from SbF_6^{-} , ClO_4^{-} , NO_3^{-} and a halogen ion;

and an adhesive layer containing a dye selectively absorbing a light of 550 to 620 nm wavelength region, both formed on the transparent substrate so that the adhesive layer becomes the outermost layer.

3. (canceled)

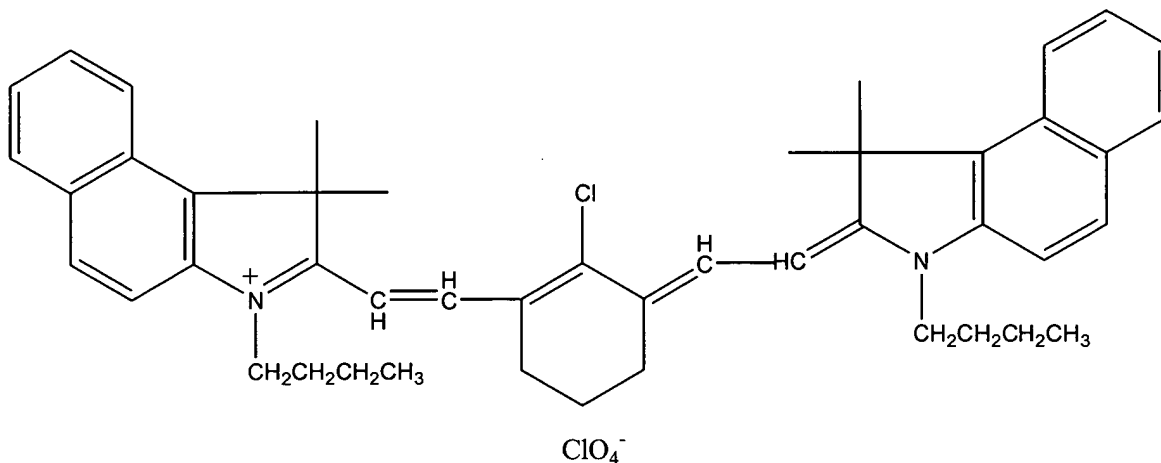
4. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 1, ~~which further~~ wherein the transparent resin layer further contains at least one ~~kind of~~ dithiol-nickel complex represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (3):



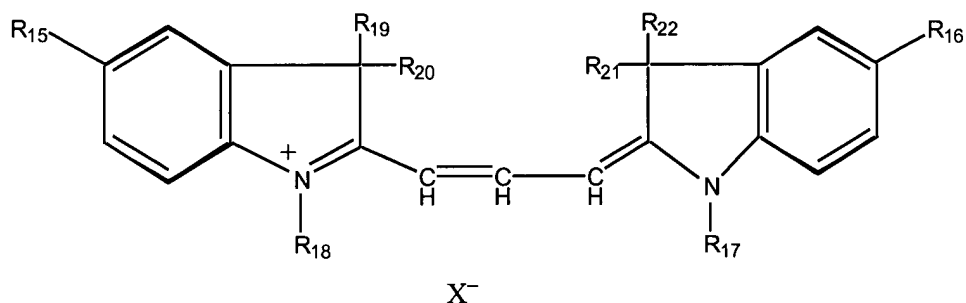
~~(wherein where~~ R₉ to R₁₂ may be the are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkylene group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkylamino group, an alkoxy group or a ~~halogen atom~~) halogen atom.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to ~~Claim 5~~ Claim 1, wherein the polymethine dye is represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (5):



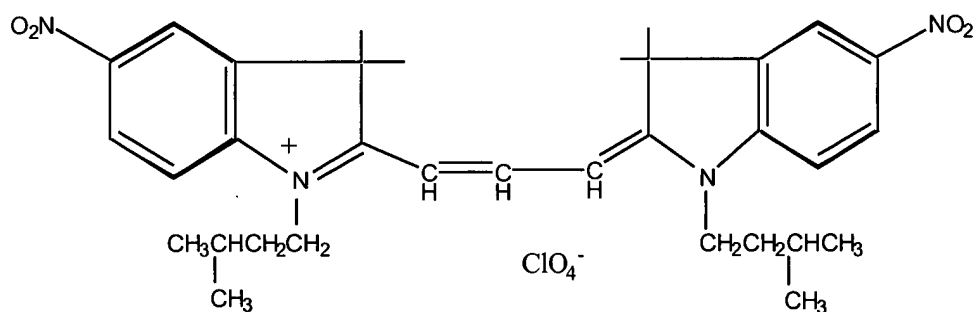
7. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 1, wherein the dye selectively absorbing a light of 550 to 620 nm wavelength region is at least one ~~kind of~~ cyanin dye represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (6):



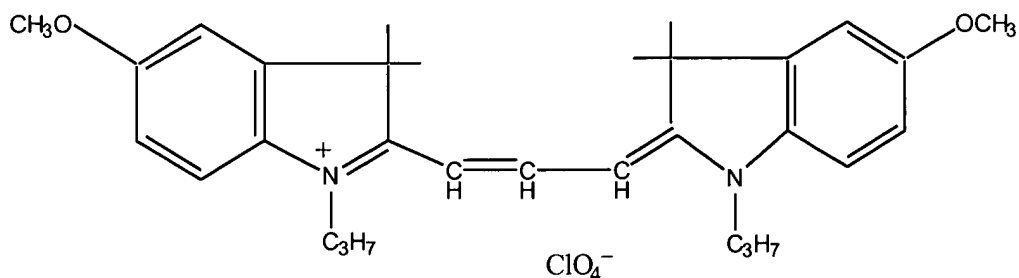
~~(wherein where~~ R₁₅, R₁₆, R₁₉, R₂₀, R₂₁ and R₂₂ may be the ~~are the~~
same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₁₂ alkyl

or alkoxy group, an amino group, a cyano group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group; R_{17} and R_{18} ~~may be the~~ are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-12} alkyl group, a C_{6-12} aryl group, an alkenyl group, an aralkyl group or an alkynyl group; and X is an anion ~~typified by~~ selected from SbF_6^- , ClO_4^- , NO_3^- ~~or a halogen ion~~ and a halogen ion.

8. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 7, wherein the dye selectively absorbing a light of 550 to 620 nm wavelength region is at least one dye selected from the dyes represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (7):



and ~~the dyes represented by~~ the following ~~general~~ formula (8):



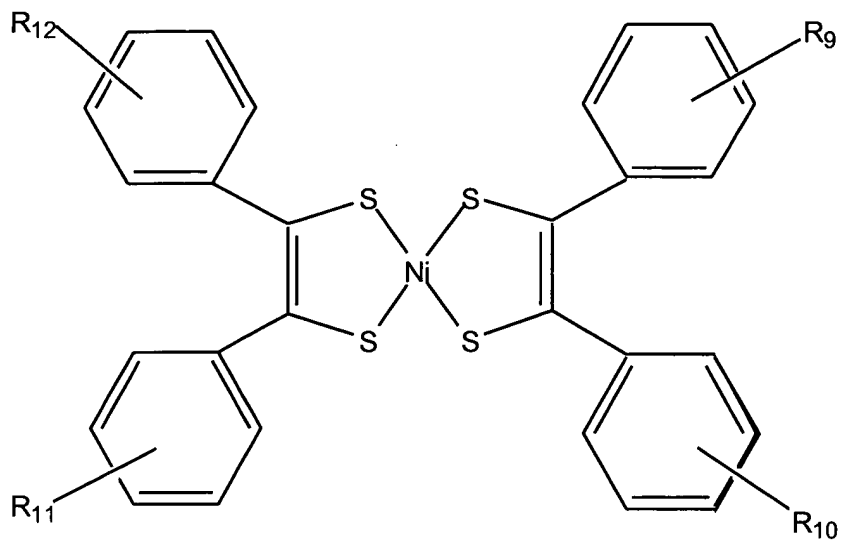
9. (previously presented) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent substrate is made from a polycarbonate, a polyarylate or both of them.

10. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 1, wherein the transparent substrate is made from at least ~~one kind selected from~~ one of a polyethylene terephthalate, a polyethylene naphthalate and a polycycloolefin.

11. (previously presented) A filter for plasma display panel, made from a near infrared absorption material set forth in Claim 1.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 2, ~~which further~~ wherein the transparent resin layer further contains at least one ~~kind of~~ dithiol-nickel complex represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (3):



~~(wherein where~~ R₉ to R₁₂ may be the are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₄ alkylene group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, an alkylamino group, an alkoxy group or a ~~halogen atom~~ halogen atom.

14. (canceled)

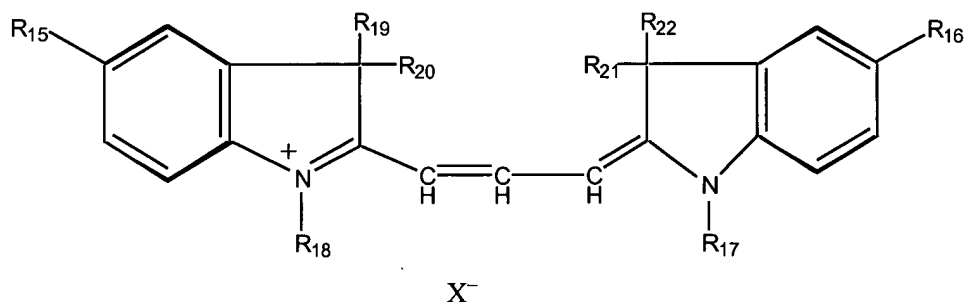
15. (canceled)

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 2, wherein the dye selectively absorbing a light of 550 to 620 nm wavelength region is at least one ~~kind of~~ cyanin dye represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (6):

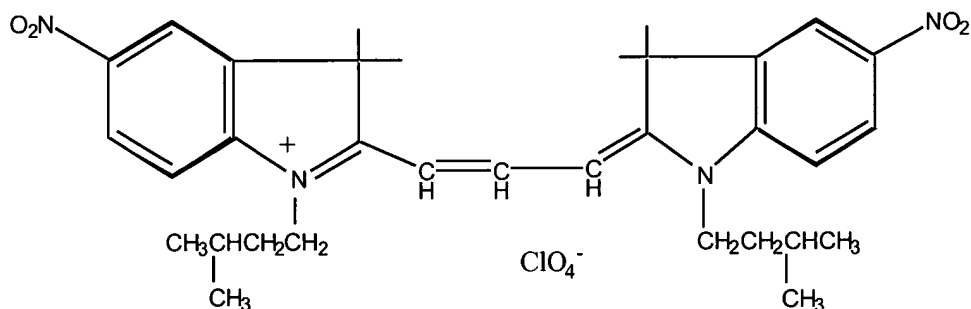


~~(wherein~~ where R_{15} , R_{16} , R_{19} , R_{20} , R_{21} and R_{22} ~~may be the~~ are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-12} alkyl or alkoxy group, an amino group, a cyano group, a nitro group or a carboxyl group; R_{17} and R_{18} ~~may be the~~ are the same or different and are each a hydrogen atom, a C_{1-12} alkyl group, a C_{6-12} aryl group, an alkenyl group, an aralkyl group or an alkynyl group; and X is an anion ~~typified by~~ selected from SbF_6^- , ClO_4^- , NO_3^- ~~or a halogen ion~~) and a halogen ion.

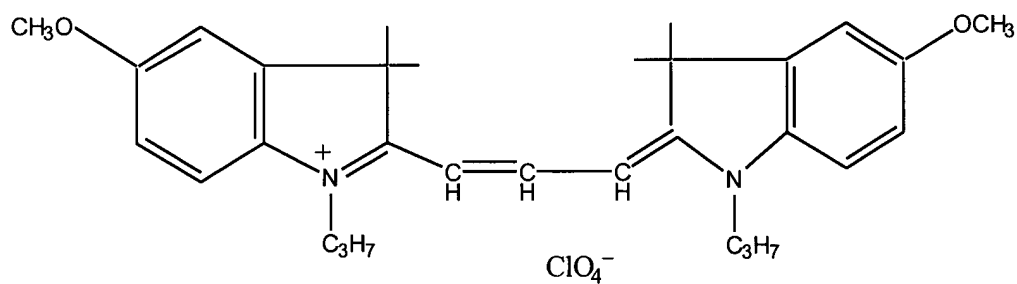
20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 19, wherein the dye selectively absorbing a light of 550 to 620 nm wavelength region is at least one dye selected from the dyes represented by the following ~~general~~ formula (7):



and ~~the dyes represented by~~ the following ~~general~~ formula (8):



23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (previously presented) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 2, wherein the transparent substrate is made from a polycarbonate, a polyarylate or both of them.

26. (currently amended) A near infrared absorption material according to Claim 2, wherein the transparent substrate is made from at least ~~one kind selected from~~ one of a polyethylene terephthalate, a polyethylene naphthalate and a polycycloolefin.

27. (previously presented) A filter for plasma display panel, made from a near infrared absorption material set forth in Claim 2.